



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

 Majority prices for next week's trading was trending unchanged. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail demand was slow to moderate, best where featured. Food service covered the full range with strongest movement into fast food, restaurants, and catering businesses. Supplies of all sizes were at least adequate for trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was light to moderate, at times better when covering weekend needs. White meat was sufficient, better balanced for tenders, boneless skinless breasts, and wings, and dark meat was readily available with limited interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

**Preliminary report** of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 04/28/03-05/02/03 (cents per lb)

### US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	47.00-50.00	45.00-59.00	49.08	24
Los Angeles	69.00			
New York	50.00-53.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	59.00-63.00	47.00-65.00	62.93	83

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 63.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

### PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
867	54.70-65.50	63.31

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	184.50	978
BREASTS - B/S	157.50	4,633
BREASTS - WHOLE	86.00	1,333
THIGH MEAT - B/S	61.50	661
LEG QUARTERS	20.50	8,301
WINGS	70.00	3,207

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

**MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading into the Chicago area were unchanged from last Monday's final. Trade sentiment on broiler/fryers remained steady. Producer offerings were light to moderate for the less than enthusiastic buyer interest. Retail demand was slow to moderate with increased consumer interest on featured items. Food service movement was in a full range, mostly fair and best into fast food promotions, restaurants and catering. Floor stocks were adequate to ample. Weights were in a desirable range. Trading in the parts sector centered on tenders and boneless/skinless breast for the most part, fair interest noted on wings and limited on all other items. Supplies of wings and tenders were in close balance to tight, breast items in balance with dark meat fully available. The market tone was mostly steady, instances firm on tenders, wings and boneless/skinless breasts and under-tone weak on dark meat items.

**SOUTHERN BROILER** Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand entering the weekend was slow to fair, best for retail ads and fast food promotions, with improvements probable due to upcoming first of the month. Supplies of all sizes were sufficient and easy to obtain. In the parts structure, breast items were adequate, better balanced for tenders and boneless skinless breasts. Wings were in good shape and continued to move well, and dark meat was readily available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate, at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

**WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** The preliminary majority prices were unchanged in all areas. Offerings were adequate overall. Buying activity was moderate at best. Retail demand moderate to good, best to cover feature activities throughout the region. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. Trade sentiment was generally steady on parts.

**Ads noted** (per pound unless otherwise stated):

**Southern California** – whole body 57-69, whole cut-up 139-148, marinated Cornish hen 199, cornish hen 97, boneless breast 198-499, boneless leg meat marinated 199, boneless leg meat 59-99, boneless leg meat 40# cast 2998, split breast 97-119, whole breast 89, wing IQF 5# 485, wing 59, leg quarter 10# bag 390, leg quarter 40# case 999, leg quarter 8# bag 384, marinated leg quarter 89, thigh 47-117, drumstick 47-118, drumstick 5# bag 195, variety pack drumstick/wing/thigh 99, gizzard 69, (food service deli section - fried mixed 8 piece 399, 12 piece 599, 8 piece drumstick and thigh 298);

**Northern California** – whole body 59, whole body (organic) 219, roaster 119, boneless breast 399, boneless breast (organic) 599, split breast 99-199, drumstick 89, thigh 89;

**Colorado** – roaster 99, whole body 99, whole body seasoned 149 buy one get one free, boneless breast 169-199, split breast 129, boneless thigh 249, drumstick 99, thigh 99, leg quarter 79, ground chicken 149, (food service deli section – fried mixed 8 piece 499, 50 piece 2499, 100 piece 4799, 250 piece 11899, 500 piece 23499);

**Arizona** – whole body 49-79, whole split 69, boneless breast 199-299, breast tenders 399, boneless thigh meat 249, leg quarter 49-79, drumstick 59-79, thigh 59-79.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was seasonally light to no better than fair as dealers attempted to keep floor stocks in close balance with generally lackluster demand. Offerings of all sizes were sufficient for current trade needs. Retail and distributive movement was light. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, boneless skinless breasts were in good balance and clearing. Bone-in breasts were fully adequate. Leg items were at least adequate.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Movement of ready-to-cook whole increased entering the weekend, but in general remained seasonally no better than fair, and about as expected for the end of the month. Seller offerings were adequate and in fairly good balance. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processor schedules were moderate to light. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 52 to 62 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, supplies were fully sufficient for dealer needs.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

### BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	50-63
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	55.23
NO. OF BOXES	11,212
CUMULATIVE	04/21/03-04/25/03 55.16
	04/22/02-04/26/02 49.33
NO. OF BOXES	04/21/03-04/25/03 33,027
	04/22/02-04/26/02 49,026

\*8 of 8 plants reporting.

APR 24

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

APR 25

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	910	129.00-230.00	135-139	137.27	887	131.00-230.00	133-139	136.94	4,031	137.76
TENDERLOINS	205	135.00-190.00	135-137	143.84	168	135.00-190.00	135-138	145.73	1,197	142.19
BREAST - LINE RUN	100	82.00-89.00	82-84	83.60	96	82.00-89.00	82-84	83.69	400	83.83
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				279	73.51
LEGS	92	22.00-38.00	25-26	26.90	93	22.00-38.00	24-26	26.99	487	27.26
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	638	16.00-20.00	17-18	17.43	637	16.00-20.00	16-17	17.45	3,109	17.35
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,197	18.00-26.00	19-20	19.77	1,236	18.00-26.00	19-20	19.88	5,586	20.11
WINGS (WHOLE)	102	60.00-71.00	-	66.76	105	60.00-71.00	-	66.86	873	66.34
WINGS (CUT)	435	73.00-85.00	78-80	80.02	429	73.00-85.00	77-80	79.93	2,211	79.26
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				335	40.83
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				119	41.65
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				159	58.60

\*\*\*\*\*  
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS\*\*\*\*\*  
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR APR 24, 2003 F.O.B. DOCK.

TRADING FOR APR 25, 2003 F.O.B. DOCK.

**RANGE****TODAY'S  
AVERAGE****RANGE****TODAY'S  
AVERAGE****5-DAY  
AVERAGE**

45.00 - 48.00

46.35

43.50 - 47.50

46.05

45.50

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS** Trucklot buying activity increased slightly as dealers purchased product to cover weekend needs, however, demand was noted as no better than fair overall. Offerings of bone-in breast were at least adequate to fully adequate. Boneless skinless breast were in good balance and clearing. Dark meat items were at least adequate. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally light to fair. The market tone was mostly steady.

ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB.

APR 24

**CURRENT NEG****WTD****VOL/LBS****CURRENT NEG****WTD****VOL/LBS**

APR 25

**WEEKLY**

ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	145-150	148.51	466,920	145-150	149.35	376,100	148.61	2,126,855
TENDERLOINS	125-130	135.24	118,340	125-130	135.39	73,560	135.57	556,063
BREAST - WITH RIBS	78-79	83.12	197,680	78-79	83.82	281,840	83.04	971,760
BREAST - LINE RUN	78	77.44	137,320	78	80.11	83,280	78.89	576,480
LEGS	32-33	31.85	239,280	32-33	30.33	290,600	31.25	1,323,800
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	20.96	424,336	20-21	20.98	404,373	20.91	2,109,483
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	27.80	122,180	23-24	27.27	117,110	28.32	531,740
THIGHS	22-23	33.42	49,130	22-23	31.48	55,570	32.21	214,220
B/S THIGHS	62-63	68.95	83,240	62-63	68.29	87,280	66.02	501,720
WINGS (WHOLE)	59-60	67.44	155,870	59-60	67.01	225,040	65.63	887,610
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.58	40,440	10-12	12.30	38,520	12.30	169,800
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	27.01	9,240	30-35	30.27	16,680	28.41	69,540
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	42.29	15,480	40-45	43.96	22,800	43.22	93,540

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). \* TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	04/25	04/24	04/23	04/22	04/23	04/22	04/18	04/16
ALA	4,111	3,786	3,692	3,861	5.30	5.26	2,992	5.13
ARK	4,964	5,225	4,969	5,026	4.86	5.03	4,538	4.95
DELMARVA	2,060	2,127	2,209	2,198	5.19	5.23	1,884	5.15
KY-LA-TN	2,105	1,940	1,888	1,948	4.93	4.92	1,857	4.87
MISS	2,527	2,735	2,829	2,770	5.33	5.45	2,193	5.58
NC	2,392	2,612	2,393	2,659	6.22	6.05	1,374	6.25
TEXAS	2,765	2,451	2,346	2,465	5.07	5.19	2,432	5.07
TOTAL	20,924	20,876	20,326	20,682	5.23	5.28	17,270	5.24
MON-FRI	103,837(A)						100,441(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 25-Apr 03 and 26-Apr-03 is estimated to be 31,305,000 up 20.80 percent from a week ago and down 2.3 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 25,915,000; last year 32,036 ,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 26-Apr-03 is estimated to be 149,552,000 head up 4 percent from a week ago, and down 5 percent from a year ago

(Last week 144,469,000 Last year 157,688,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED  
POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN  
CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	87-93
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	63-65
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY  
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	103-104
	ICE PACK	96-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK	113
	ICE PACK	104-105
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91-98
	DRY PACK	-
DUCKS		155-166

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED** Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 12-Apr-03 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning  
Food service  
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up

	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	23,134	29,678	38,638
Avg Weight	3.89	4.72	6.18
% of total /1	25%	32%	42%

## COMPARISONS

Last week	23,614	25,770	39,318
Avg Weight	3.86	4.80	6.20
% of total /1	27%	29%	44%

Same week, yr ago /2	28,321	21,086	45,807
Avg Weight	3.80	4.84	6.07
% of total /1	30%	22%	48%

To date/2003	359,164	337,938	632,776
To date/2002	453,282	348,868	701,507

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION**

WEEK ENDING 19-Apr-2003 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	144,469	1,751	1,235	2,986	410
AVG WT	5.31	3.45	8.11	5.38	6.60
LAST WEEK	152,185	1,955	1,221	3,176	405
SAME WK YR AGO	158,640	1,910	1,417	3,327	449
AVG WT	5.16	3.39	7.95	5.33	6.71
TO-DATE/2003	2,387,548	26,890	21,245	48,135	6,653
TO-DATE/2002	2,445,523	29,139	20,765	49,904	7,000

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 154.5 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 146.2 million head or 8.3 million head less than or 95% of estimated fryers available.

**EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: APR 22, 2003**

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

\*\*\*AI PAPERS REQUIRED FOR ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY\*\*\*

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.20 - 1.35	Pigeons	3.00 - 3.50ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.10 - 1.15	White Pigeons	3.25 - 4.00ea.
Pekin Ducks	3.00 - 3.50ea.	Rabbits	
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.80 - 1.00	4-6 LBS	1.50 - 2.02
Crossbred Roosters		Rabbits	
4-6 LBS	.80 - 1.10	6-9 LBS	1.30 - 1.55
Crossbred Roosters		Bunnies	2.00 - 11.00ea.
7-11 LBS	.60 - .90	Guinea Pigs	7.00 - 12.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.35 - 1.60	Goats	38.00 - 50.00ea.
Banty Roosters	4.00 - 6.00ea.	Kid Goats	21.00 - 30.00ea.
Banty Hens	3.00 - 4.00ea.	Doves	3.00 - 6.00ea.
Silgies	3.00 - 3.75ea.	Chukars	1.25 - 1.75ea.

Total Coops Sold 504

**EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY**

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 21-APR-2003

**DUCKLINGS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	140	146
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	124-128	125-130
MOSTLY		

**ROASTERS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	58-64.50	62-64.50
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	61-85.50	69-73.50

**SQUABS:** NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

**CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS** Prices unchanged. Trade sentiment mostly steady. Demand was moderate to good. Weights were desirable to at times light. Schedules usually full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings and \$0.30-0.45, livers at \$0.75-1.70, and feet at \$0.80-1.15. NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 21-APR-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	107-124	125
MOSTLY		

**ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT	
MARCH	15	153.2	156.5	98%	5.23
	22	154.9	155.9	99%	5.09
	29	154.7	155.7	99%	5.07
APRIL	5	158.2	155.4	102%	5.06
	12	154.0	154.3	100%	5.17
	19	146.2	154.5	95%	5.31
YEAR TO DATE	2416.6	2453.0	99%		
APRIL	26	156.2			
MAY	3	158.3			

**BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	04/26/03	04/19/03	% CHG	04/27/02	% CHG
Broilers	149,552	144,469*	+04	157,688*	-05
Cattle	672	668	+01	694*	-03
Hogs	1,869	1,888	-01	1,914*	-02

Under Federal Inspection

\* ACTUAL

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Majority prices were generally unchanged on both light and heavy cannery when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly fair. Trading was very light on heavy cannery. Offerings were in close balance to tight and well cleared at most locations. The undertone was at least steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b>
<b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
21-25 MAJORITY 22.5-23	30-35 MAJORITY 31-32

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b>
<b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
22.5-26.5 MAJORITY 25	31.5-37 MAJORITY 33.5-34

#### **LIGHT TYPE HENS**

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

**EASTERN REGION** Removal values were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Offerings of spent hens were more than sufficient for trade needs. Demand was at least moderate. Processing schedules were reported as normal. Opinions on removal cost were generally steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	0-8	5-7

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** The cost of salvaging spent light fowl was generally unchanged compared to the past week. Offerings exceeded processing requirements and were noted as ample. Finished sales were in line with reduced schedules at most plants. Values of disposal were expected to remain steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Values ranged unchanged with majority values unchanged to slightly higher. Demand was moderate to fairly good with offerings adequate to fully adequate. Rendering operations were charging higher processing fees to off-set previously higher gas rates. Trade sentiment steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	0-8.5	3.5-6.5

**WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN** Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.

#### **HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \***

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 28 -APR-03

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN** Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was light to fair for the at least adequate offerings. Movement of finished product was moderate. Processing schedules for next week were normal. The undertone was steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

**SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN** Trading was too few to report. Requirements for normal slaughter schedules were easily met by fully adequate offerings of spent heavy fowl. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was about steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

\* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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